SP 0 8 2003 IN RE:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SEP 12 2003

APPLICATION OF

Richard D. Cramer & Robert D. Clark

TITLE

A METHOD FOR SELECTING AN OPTIMALLY

DIVERSE LIBRARY OF SMALL MOLECULES BASED ON VALIDATED MOLECULAR

STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTORS

FILING DATE

February 5, 2001

SERIAL NUMBER

09/776,708

ART UNIT

1631

EXAMINER

Mary K. Zeman

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

3017-54

CUSTOMER NO.

22448

TO:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 6, 2003

Applicants hereby respond to the office action dated March 6, 2003. This response is being timely filed along with a petition for extension of time and the required fee.

Initially, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the fact that the present application was filed as a continuation of Application No. 08/592,132 filed January 26, 1996 and issued February 6, 2001 as U.S. Patent No 6,185,506. The Filing Receipt incorrectly references the present application as a divisional application of Application No. 08/592,132. Applicants are prepared to file a terminal disclaimer if required by the Examiner.

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Serial No. 09/776,708 Amendment dated Sept. 8, 2003 Reply to Office Action of Mar. 6, 2003

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claim which begins on page 5.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8.